

REMARKS

In the present Office Action, claims 1-27 were examined and rejected. In view of the Remarks submitted herewith, Applicant believes that claims 1-27 in present form are in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Quigley (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0119271). Claims 6-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 also in view of Quigley.

Quigley discloses "a spoolable composite member having a sensor and an energy conductor embedded in the composite member" (see Abstract). The (non-conductive) composite member (e.g. coiled tubing) may have any number of different sensors each with its own energy conductor (telemetry) (see Quigley at paragraphs [0023], [0024] and [0028] and Figure 11). The composite member may further include a distributed sensor (see Quigley at paragraph [0026] and Figures 18 and 23) designed to sense a single environmental condition (such as temperature) and at "multiple points along a length of the energy conductor" (see Quigley at paragraph [0150]). Accordingly, an energy conductor associated with a distributed sensor carries common signals. Accordingly, Quigley relates to spoolable coiled tubing having sensor systems wherein each system has an energy conductor designed to carry common signals from a single sensor or distributed sensor.

By contrast, the present invention discloses and claims a system that takes advantage of the broad bandwidth available in an optical fiber. As described at page 3 lines 2-9 of the present patent application:

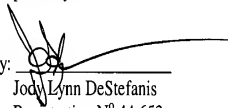
The sensor telemetry system operates to support multiple sensors by coupling a first optical signal and a second optical signal onto the optical fiber [where] ... [t]he second optical signal derives from a non-optical sensor. The first and second optical signals are transmitted over the optical fiber ... [and] demodulated from the optical fiber ...

As described in independent claims 1, 12 and 20, signals from two or more sensors are transmitted using "an optical fiber coupled with" the sensors "to carry signals outputted from the ... sensor[s]." Accordingly, the present invention transmits signals from multiple sensors measuring different environmental effects using a common energy conductor or telemetry. There is no motivation or suggestion in Quigley to use a common telemetry to transmit signals outputted from different sensors responding to different environmental effects.

Accordingly, the cited reference does not anticipate or make obvious the present invention, either alone or in combination. Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

While Applicant believes that no fees are due at this time, in the event that a fee is due in connection with this Response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0615.

Respectfully submitted,

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